



CONNECTICUT
HOSPITAL
ASSOCIATION

**TESTIMONY OF
CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
SUBMITTED TO THE
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
Friday, April 5, 2013**

**HB 6636, An Act Concerning The Collection Of Sexual Assault Evidence
From An Intoxicated Or Incapacitated Victim**

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony concerning **HB 6636, An Act Concerning The Collection Of Sexual Assault Evidence From An Intoxicated Or Incapacitated Victim**. CHA recognizes the importance of the issue, but we do not believe that the raised bill is necessary.

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statute Section 19a-112a, the Commission on the Standardization of the Collection of Evidence in Sexual Assault Investigations (Evidence Commission) is required to maintain and regularly update the State of Connecticut Technical Guidelines for Health Care Response to Victims of Sexual Assault (Technical Guidelines). To that end, the Evidence Commission formed a subcommittee to examine the issue of evidence collection from an intoxicated or incapacitated victim and has already met several times. The subcommittee is close to making recommendations for how best to address this issue within the framework of the Technical Guidelines. As a member of the Evidence Commission, CHA is deeply invested in ensuring that sexual assault survivors have access to quality medical care and forensic evidence collection. Along with other members of the Evidence Commission, CHA appreciates the Committee's interest on this matter, but hopes that it can see that leaving this matter to the expertise of the Evidence Commission would serve the best interests of all.

Thank you for your consideration of our position.

For additional information, contact CHA Government Relations at (203) 294-7310.